

SELF MONITORING STATIC SEAL WITH OPTICAL CONDUCTOR
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A seal for preventing leakage of fluid from between a first member and a second member has a seal body and a seal wear indicator. The second member is capable of moving toward and away from the first member. The seal body is adapted for engaged contact with the first and second members so as to prevent leakage of fluid as long as the seal has not worn beyond a specified depth. A seal wear indicator is positioned within the seal body at approximately the specified depth, such that when the seal has worn to the specified depth, a change in the optical conductor is detected, indicating that the seal needs replacement.